GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:113
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2002
ASSAULT ON FORESTS OFFICIALS
DALPAT SINGH PARASTE

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned "Naxals Active in Central India Sanctuaries" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated May 10, 2002;

(b) if so, the details and the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the instances of assault and intimidation on forest officials by the naxalites have increased in Indirawati Kanger Ghat National Park (Chhattisgarh);

(d) if so, whether it has become unsafe to stay in the forest at night and the guest houses have become the meeting grounds of the naxalities; and

(e) if so, the remedial steps the Government have taken or propose to take in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a), (b), (c), (d) & (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b), (c),(d) & (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO DUE FOR REPLY ON 22-07-2002 REGARDING "ASSAULT ON FOREST OFFICIALS".

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c) Time and again, instances of disturbance on account of Naxalite presence have come to light from forest areas of Maharashtra, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhandand Madhya Pradesh, Chhatisgarh including IndravatiNational Park and Kanger Valley National Park. Details of some incidents reported by State Government are given in the Annexure.

(d) &(e) Armed Police personnel have been posted in sensitive areas to curb such activities.

Annexure I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN THE REPLY TO PART (b), (c) &(d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 113 T ANSWERED ON 22-07-2002 REGARDING ASSAULT ON FORESTS OFFICIALS

Year	Incidents of assault/damage	Loss(in Rupees)
1987	Damage by Fire to the building (Indravati National Park)	10,000.00
1988	Two wireless sets removed and taken and buildings at Pilloor damaged	41,000.00
1997	An officer of the rank of Conservator of Forests was man-handled	-
1998	Date 5. 4. 1998 Game guard Naka Sagmeta partially damaged due to blasting	10,000.00
2000	17.2.2000 all the works were stopped	-
2001	Forest Guard Quarter Karkeli and barrier damaged 1-12-2001.	-